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LITERATURE, AMUSEMENT, AND INSTRUCTION.

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Original Communications.

CHRIST CHURCH AT TURNHAM GREEN.

THIS elegant structure, completed and consecrated in the last year, has been mainly raised by the pious anxiety of the gentry and others in the neighbourhood to see their poorer neighbours adequately provided with spiritual instruction. Of the generous care thus manifested to soothe the poor man under present woe, and teach him to entertain a lively hope of happiness above, there can be but one opinion. It was consecrated and opened in due form by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of

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London, in the presence of a numerous assemblage of the neighbouring clergy and a large and respectable congregation. The prelate, on this interesting occasion, preached a sermon from the 10th chapter of the Epistle to the Romans, 10th verse—“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” At its conclusion a collection, amounting to 150*l.*, was made. An adjournment to the large room of the National School, on the south side of the green, took place, where a splendid *déjeuner à la fourchette* (provided at the expense of the Committee) had been prepared. On his health being drunk, the Bishop, in returning thanks, took occasion

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to mention that the Church Building Fund, which he was the means of establishing, had, during the last ten years, reached in amount to nearly 200,000*l.*, by means of which forty-two churches had been already erected. In this case, as above stated, individual liberality had been successfully appealed to. The total expense of erecting the church was estimated at 6,000*l.*, of which, at the time of consecration, 5,000*l.* had been subscribed. Mr Bowerbank, the vicar of Chiswick, who assisted on this occasion, had been active in furthering the design.

The new church is situate on the Great Western road, on the south side, near to the five-mile stone, and in the centre of the well-known common, called Turnham green. Its style of architecture is the Anglo-Norman, from a design by Messrs Scott and Moffatt, architects, of Spring gardens, which has been ably carried out by Messrs Bird, builders, of Hammersmith. The plan is cruciform, with a spire of considerable altitude, terminating in a point surmounted by a vane. The principal entrance is under the tower at the west end, and there are two other entrances north and south. The body of the church, exclusive of the chancels and transepts, is 72 feet long and 44 feet wide, and will accommodate 930 persons, a large proportion of the sittings being free.

TOPOGRAPHICAL GLEANINGS IN MIDDLESEX.

(For the Mirror.)

HARLINGTON.—In the churchyard of this village stands a famous and magnificent yew tree. It is of great age, and is forty-four feet and a half in height, the greatest circumference of its trunk being nineteen feet and a quarter. The branches cover a space of one hundred and fifty square feet. One William Woodeson, who lived in this village, made a very curious will, which was proved October 27, 1786. In this document he says, "I desire my corpse to be dressed in my last new shirt, muslin neckcloth, nightcap, and plaid nightgown; that my old rusty sword, which always lay by my bed-side, be put in my right hand, and my Latin testament in my left hand, and my little pillow under my head. I desire to be buried in a plain coffin, to be drawn, if convenient, on my own one-horse chaise to the church, and then to be carried on the shoulders of six poor men, without any pall or funeral pomp whatsoever, and I order that the said poor men be paid half-a-crown each for their trouble."

HANWELL.—The most conspicuous things here are the Railway Viaduct, the Lunatic Asylum, and the new church, which pre-

sents a very picturesque appearance from the road. By-the-by, there is a scarce book extant, entitled the 'Drunkard's Cup,' by Master Harris, pastor of Hanwell, published in 1626.

HAYES.—The church of this village is well worth looking at. The roof is of wood, unpainted, and curious. It contains also several relics of armoury, gloves, and spears placed over ancient escutcheons. There is also an interesting baptismal font. In the churchyard is a flat tombstone to the memory of a printer who left an annual bequest of buns for children. Also, a tablet to the memory of Dr Walker, who resided at the house now occupied by the Rev. Mr Hale, and was the first person who gave public lectures on astronomy.

DRATTON.—The church of this village is covered with ivy, and is greatly admired for its rustic beauty. Near it is a fine ornamented brick doorway—a remnant of the ancient palace of the Earls of Uxbridge. On the floor of the church is a brass to the memory of John Goode, an eminent physician, A.D. 1581.

COWLEY.—In the small church of this village are buried Barton Booth, the celebrated tragedian, and John Lightfoot, the author of the 'Flora Scotica' (1777). Booth resided at Cowley Grove, which was afterwards, for many years, the residence of Rich, the famous Harlequin. Lightfoot lived in the parsonage house, Uxbridge. He was born at Newent, Forest of Dean, Gloucester, Dec. 9, 1735. He was curate at Colnbrook, but afterwards at Uxbridge, and until he died. Meanwhile, he also officiated as chaplain to the Duchess Dowager of Portland, at Bulstrode. He married a Miss Haynes, of Uxbridge, a lady of very considerable fortune, by whom he left two sons and three daughters. On February 20th, 1788, he was suddenly taken ill at Uxbridge, where he died in a few hours. Pennant says that in botany, whether British or foreign, Lightfoot was unrivalled. Modern botanists also hold his name in great respect, and his work on the plants of Scotland is frequently quoted by them.

HILLINGDON.—The Red Lion inn at this village is an ancient house of great interest to the antiquary and historian, for in 1646, when it was kept by one John Tisdale, King Charles the First stopped in it for two or three hours, and took refreshment. His majesty was at that time on his flight from Oxford to the Scots. The church is ancient, and has a fine appearance. In the churchyard lies, buried under a conspicuous tombstone, John Rich, patentee of Covent Garden Theatre, and celebrated as the originator of the English harlequin, and for his excellent performance of that character under the name of Lun. His "matchless art and whim" are

recorded by Garrick. Smith's 'Historical and Literary Curiosities' (Part V), contains a view of "the tomb of John Rich, at Hillingdon, the founder of Covent Garden Theatre, with a fac-simile of his autograph." Here is also buried Eliza Maria Harris, daughter of Thomas Harris, patentee of Covent Garden Theatre, who resided in the neighbourhood. While writing, we peruse in Thorpe's 'Catalogue of Autographs' (1848) the following apropos memorandum:—"George Lord Chandos, Baron of Sudeley, in Gloucester; his signature to a document relative to some estates at Hillingdon, dated Dec. 11, 1754, written on vellum." I know not whether any of his descendants have a landed interest in the neighbourhood at the present time. On the north side of the church is an ancient, comfortable, and picturesque mansion, called the Cedar House, from a cedar tree of large dimensions having formerly stood in the garden. The house was, from about the years 1678 to 1721, the residence of Samuel Reynardson, Esq., a naturalist of some distinction; and it is probable that the cedar tree which proved so flourishing as to bestow a name on the house to which it appertained, was one of the earliest planted in this country. According to an admeasurement carefully made in 1779, its height was fifty-three feet; the diameter of the horizontal extent of the branches, from east to west, ninety-six feet; ditto, from north to south, eighty-nine feet; the girth of its trunk, close to the ground, was fifteen feet six inches; at three and a half feet above the ground thirteen feet six inches; at seven feet, twelve feet six inches; at twelve feet, fourteen feet eight inches; at fourteen and a half feet, just beneath the division of the principal branches, fifteen feet eight inches: the girth of the larger branch at a foot and a half from its division was twelve feet; it then separated into two secondary branches, one eight feet six inches in girth, the other seven feet ten inches: another principal branch measured at its division ten feet in girth, and spread itself into two arms, each being five feet six inches in girth. One of the largest branches of this fine tree was torn from the parent stem by a high wind, in Sept. 1789, and the whole tree was soon after cut down. Mr Reynardson died in 1721, liberally bequeathing his fine library for the use of the vicars of Hillingdon for ever. In the will, dated in 1715, he directs his curious collection of plants to be sold to defray the expense of building a room attached to the church for receiving and preserving his library; and he orders that if there be any surplus after building the room it shall be expended in purchasing more books, and he directs that the whole be kept according to the rules prescribed by parliament for the preservation of pa-

rochial libraries. I regret to say that this valuable library of scarce and excellent works is quite neglected and unappreciated by the illiterate persons in whose trust it is placed. The books are closely shut up in an immense cupboard in the vestry; and it was to me really painful to behold so many valuable and rare works suffered to become perfectly rotten and illegible from damp, dust, and mildew. Such neglect is a gross insult and ingratitude to the memory of Mr Reynardson, who, doubtless, concluded that in leaving his library to the church, it would be held sacred, and treated with becoming care and decency. The neglect is an injustice doubly to be regretted, as some future vicar might derive intellectual benefit from these books. At any rate, contemptuous treatment of a bequest made with so liberal an intention, is a dangerous and reprehensible precedent. Men of public spirit and philanthropic sentiments may by such careless conduct be deterred from founding parochial libraries on a more extended and useful plan. I would also here observe that it is not altogether decent or well-timed of any preacher to have his dogs put into his pulpit every Sunday during service; and that the parsons of Hillingdon would do well to show gentlemanly courtesy towards eminent persons who civilly apply to them for facts of a local nature. Mr Brewer, the eminent topographer, complains, in the fifth volume of his 'Beauties of England' (1816, Prefatory Remarks, p. 7), that the vicar of Hillingdon treated him and his studies with insolent indifference, and Mr Loudon, whose name and labours ought to have commanded every attention, complained of similar treatment when he applied to the vicar for information relative to the library, &c. After the death of Mr Reynardson the Cedar House was inhabited by Major-General Rich Russell, son of Sir John Russell, of Chippenham, Cambridgeshire, and grandson of the illustrious Oliver Cromwell. In 1816 it was the residence of Lacey Primatt, Esq., whose house at Hampton was purchased, in 1754, by Garrick. At present the Cedar House enjoys a high and well-deserved reputation as a first-rate school for young ladies, under the superintendence of Miss E. Mann, of whose refined taste and judgment the house contains many proofs. J. H. F.

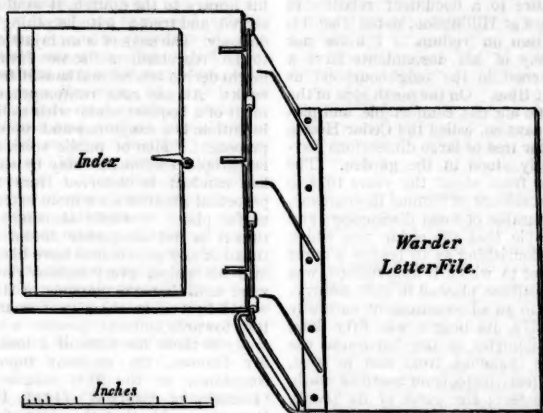
True Wisdom—"The beginning of all wisdom," says the Iceland moralist, "is the fear of the Highest—that fear never let go out of thy heart. God must thou love above all things, and next to him love all virtue. Accustom thyself habitually to equity, justice, and moderation. Think of thy last hour and avoid all slander."

A NEW MODE OF FILING LETTERS.

Those who receive many letters feel it is dangerous to destroy them, but preserving them without order comes almost to the same thing, as amidst the multitude soon collected, the particular one wanted can seldom be found at the proper moment. Several contrivances have been resorted to, in order to remedy the evil. We have received a file from a Mr Perkins, which very conveniently shuts up the correspondence in a case, and the spindle on which they are

secured, parting in the middle, enables the owner to take out any sheet he may have occasion for without disturbing the rest; and our attention has been particularly called to an invention by Mr W. Fyffe, of the 'Berwick Warder,' which has procured for that gentleman the thanks of the Royal Scottish Society of Arts.

Of this, which for distinction's sake the inventor has called the "Warder Letter File and Register," we submit an engraving. It will be seen that it takes the form of the



empty boards of a book, of which the upper or left hand board *ad aperturam* is movable upon a sliding hinge of a simple construction, so as not only to admit of its opening outwards like any other volume, and like its counterpart, the corresponding board—but so also as it may slide down upon the latter, or remain up from it, at any height requisite to accommodate the "letters received," as they are progressively filed betwixt the two boards, until the volume is filled.

The whole contrivance is very simple. The boards may be made of ordinary book-binding materials; or, if made of tin, may embrace the principle of the tin safe in its most approved forms. They are formed exactly like the empty boards of a book—the left or upper one being detached, leaving the bulged back and right or lower board connected in the usual way in binding. If tin were used, the hinge connecting the right or lower board with the bulged back might be a serrated one, close fitted, and moving on a wire.

The construction of the other hinge admits of the sliding board being turned over free of the points of the files by which it is perforated,—leaving space for the opera-

tion of filing on letters. And when letters are placed upon the points of the files, this board being turned over above them, will press them securely down to their destination on the file.

The files are fixed on the under board, and perforate the movable or upper one. Their lengths being adjusted so as to admit of the sliding board passing clear of their points when slid up to the width of the volume, and turned back on its hinge. The points of the files are bent backwards to facilitate the turning over of the sliding board, and to prevent the files running into the fingers. In filing letters, cards notes, &c., respect can be had to the thickness of the volume by full-length letters being passed down on the whole files—smaller ones, notes, &c. on one or more of them, at convenience. The number of letters on hand being passed over the points merely of the files, the upper board, as already mentioned, is to be passed over the points also, and slid down on the filed letters. The elasticity of any quantity of filed letters may be subdued by loading the sliding board sufficiently; or by the use of a screw or spring clasp if preferred.

The index is attached to the inside of

the sliding board, fastening up with a catch, just clear of the prongs or files, and jointed to the front of the board inside. It is the usual alphabetical index. The first letter filed will be numbered highest (1,000, if the file is calculated for that amount) and entered so as to be found at such a number in the index—either the name of the writer or the subject of the communication being taken for the head under which the entry is made. The next letter, of course, will be numbered one less (say 999, if the book is calculated for 1,000) and so retrogressively back to No. 1, which will be the latest letter received and the first met with in reading the file. When the book is filled the three rounded points of the file just rest within the slits through which they perforate the sliding board; and if the sliding board has been properly kept under pressure during the filing of the contents, the whole will be nearly as firm as the contents of a bound book.

The file can be made to any size.

HISTORY OF THE TROUT;

HABITS, VARIETIES, MODE OF TAKING, AND THE ART OF BREEDING THEM.

AS ADOPTED BY G. BOCCIUS, ESQ.

THE *Salmo Fario* (Common Trout)—In Ichthyology a genus of fishes of the order *Abdominales*. The generic character is, compressed, head smooth, mouth large, lips small, the tongue cartilaginous, movable, and white, eyes moderate and lateral, teeth in the jaws and on the tongue, the gill membrane is from four to twelve-rayed, the body long and covered with very fine striate scales, back convex, lateral line straight, nearer the back, hindmost dorsal fin fleshy, without rays; the ventral fins have many rays.

The trout is generally found in clear cold streams or lakes, and in most parts of Europe; but it is not confined to Europe alone. Great variety is observable in the size and tinge of both its ground colour and its spots; it also varies in size. When full grown it is from six inches to fifteen inches in length—that is, the ordinary trout; but in some lakes a bull trout, as it is vulgarly named, is taken several times that length. Its general colour is a yellowish grey, brown on the back, and frequently marked on its sides by round bright red spots, each spot surrounded by a tinge of pale blue grey. The colour of the body varies; it is mostly of a purplish grey, with red spots more or less mixed with black, and the belly of a silvery cast, and the fins of a pale brown inclined to purple; the dorsal fin marked with several dark spots, and the scales are rather thin. The female fish is much brighter and more beautiful in appearance than the male. In

some of the lakes and rivers of Wales, indeed in almost all where there is no communication, there is a considerable difference in the trout; those of the Lake Llynidivi, in South Wales, are marked with very large red and black spots, and have frequently been caught weighing nearly ten pounds, but when of that size are coarse and badly flavoured. The best size for trout is found to be from half a pound to two pounds; when that weight is about their full size they are best for the table. In some of the lakes in North America the trout has been taken of sixty pounds and upwards, and they are spoken of as being of fine flavour; but for this we have only the authority of hungry travellers, or that of the hunters for the Hudson Bay Company's furs, of whom it may be presumed that the appetite is more keen and the taste less fastidious than that of the skilful angler on the banks of his home stream. The trout delights in clear cold and briskly running waters, having a strong and rough gravelly bottom. He swims with exceeding swiftness, and will leap from the surface to a considerable height to surmount the rapids or weirs that may interrupt his course. Its food consists generally of small fish, aquatic insects, shell-fish, and worms. It is particularly fond of the May or day fly (*ephemera*), as well as gnats and their larvæ.

In the Irish lakes, and in no other place, is the stomach of this fish found to be so remarkably thick and strong, more especially in the county of Galway, that they have received the name of gillaroo trout; but they do not differ in any other respect from the ordinary trout, and it is supposed that, by living so much upon shell-fish, and swallowing at the same time so many small stones, to which the shell-fish adhere, that the stomach acquires the increased thickness which has been mentioned. This fish, although so common, is unnoticed by the ancients, excepting Ausonius, who is supposed to notice it under the name of *salar*; he says nothing of it as an article of food, but speaks highly of its beauty.

There are a great number of species of this fish, their names are as follows:—

Carpio—Has a palate with five rows of teeth: it is found in the rivers of England and Switzerland, and is the smallest of the trout species, the Arcticus excepted.

Alpinus—Back black, sides pale blue, and belly orange: some few have been taken in Loch Inch, Scotland, and also in some of the lakes in Wales; it seldom visits running streams; it is found plentifully in the cold lakes of Lapland.

Erythrinus—Having scarlet spots: found chiefly in the rivers and lakes of Siberia.

Gadenii—Very small head, body spotted red and surrounded with a white ring: found in the northern seas.

Hucho—Palate has two rows of teeth, spotted with black, of an oblong shape: found in the northern lakes.

Lacustris—Body marked with minute black spots, tail forked, belly with a longitudinal groove: found in the northern lakes, and grows to a great size.

Lepechini—The sides are marked with ocellate spots, surrounded by a reddish colour, upper jaw prominent: found in the stony rivers of Russia.

Stremii—Dorsal and ventral fins edged with white: it inhabits the muddy rivers and waters of Denmark.

Salmarinus—Back tawny with yellow spots, tail forked: found in the stony rivers of Italy.

Salvelinus—Shape more like the salmon, back dark brownish blue, numerous small round red spots on the sides, belly red orange colour, pectoral, ventral, and anal fins the same, but with the two first rays white, dorsal and caudal fin bluish brown, tail moderately bifurcated, irides silvery: native of the mountainous lakes of Germany and of some of the Siberian rivers, and also found in some of the lakes of Westmoreland: it is a fish greatly prized for its delicacy of flavour.

Umbla—The lateral lines are turned up and tail forked, body above greenish and white below, the flesh turns red in boiling: found in the lakes of Switzerland.

Rivalis—Head obtuse, belly reddish, colour pale brown: inhabits the muddy rivers and stagnant lakes of Greenland.

Stagnalis—Body roundish, upper jaw elongated, back brownish, belly white, not spotted: inhabits the remoter mountainous rivers of Greenland.

Argentinus—The body marked with a longitudinal silvery stripe, anal fin very long: found on the coast and rivers of Brazil.

Arcticus—This trout is not above three inches long, is silvery, and has four rows of brown dots and fine lines on each side: it is found in the stony rivers which run into the Arctic sea.

Taimen—Body round, compressed towards the tail, silvery at the sides, belly white brown, back with numerous darker spots, tail forked: it inhabits the rivers which empty themselves into the Frozen Ocean.

Nelma—Head very long, and colour silvery white, lower jaw projecting: it is found in the rivers of Siberia.

Lenox—Colour pale gold with brown spots. It is plentiful in the rapid and stony rivers of Siberia; it grows to about three feet in length; the body is broad and thick, and the flesh white.

Kundscha—A forked tail, colour silvery and with white spots: this fish is not larger than the finger, and resembles the grayling. It inhabits the clear rivers, which run into the Arctic sea.

While writing on the trout it will perhaps be well to give a succinct history of fish zoologically, as their general history will, in a great measure, represent the trout as well as other fish. This class of animals has either a naked or scaly body, without feet, and always fins. Water being so dense a medium, must naturally occasion very remarkable phenomena in the organs of the animals which inhabit it. For a more intimate research into their anatomy and structure we must refer the reader to the elaborate writings of Cuvier and Blumenbach. The organ most useful in their vital functions is the mouth, which is generally situated under or at the end of the snout, the orifice of which has usually the appearance of a transverse slit, but in abdominal fishes the aperture is made by an opening passing obliquely downwards, except in the lamprey, where it resembles a sucker. The glands of the mouth secrete a tenacious mucus by which it is lubricated; fishes do not chew their food, nor do they possess any salivary glands to assist mastication, therefore their teeth can only be to hold or destroy their prey; they are situated differently in different fish, and are found not only in the jaws but in the palatine arches and the tongue. The œsophagus, or gullet, of fishes is generally short, at times opening from the mouth nearly direct to the stomach; the œsophagus in very large fish is capable most frequently of dilation to nearly the size of the stomach; this may be particularly noticed in the jack, which will swallow a fish half its own size. The stomach in most fish resembles the form of a common alembic inverted; its coating varies very much in strength, and depends greatly upon what the fish feeds upon; in the *salmo fario*, or trout, the caecal part of the stomach is very inconsiderable, but the trout called gillaroo, found in the western part of Ireland, is of great strength and thickness; this trout feeds on shell-fish, and the stomach acts as a sort of gizzard to grind or masticate them.

(To be continued.)

ENGLISH LIFE IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

CHAPTER III.—GAMBLING.

GAMING of every description was extensively practised by both sexes during the last century.

The South Sea Bubble and the multitude of companies which sprang into momentary existence in the reign of George I were perhaps the means of diffusing a passion for hazardous speculation all over the country. The scene exhibited about the year 1720 was most startling. "The whole nation," says Hume, "was infected with the spirit of stock-jobbing to an asto-

nishing degree: all distinctions of party, religion, sex, character, and circumstances were swallowed up in this universal concern, or in some such pecuniary project. Exchange alley was filled with a strange concourse of statesmen and clergymen, churchmen and dissenters, whigs and tories, physicians, lawyers, tradesmen, and even with females: all other professions and employments were utterly neglected. New companies started up every day under the countenance of the prime nobility: the Prince of Wales was constituted Governor of the Welsh Copper Company; the Duke of Chandos appeared at the head of the York Buildings Company; the Duke of Chandos formed a third for building houses in London and Westminster: about a hundred such schemes were projected and put in execution, to the ruin of many thousands: the sums proposed to be raised by these expedients amounted to 300,000,000*l.* sterling, and exceeded the value of all the lands in England!

"An obscure projector, pretending to have formed a very advantageous scheme, which however he did not explain, published proposals for a subscription, in which he promised that in one month the particulars of his project should be disclosed: in the meantime he declared that every person paying two guineas should be entitled to a subscription of 100*l.*, which would produce that sum yearly; in one forenoon the adventurer received a thousand of these subscriptions, and in the evening set out for another kingdom."

These delusions eventually became the subjects of general ridicule, and it is worthy of remark that the ordinary instruments of play were made the instruments of chastising gambling extraordinary. In the British Museum there are specimens of the playing cards then published, which effectively caricatured the scheme of the day. They had burlesque engraved representations of some of the mighty works announced, with satirical lines beneath. In one of these packs the York Buildings speculation was dealt with—a series of rickety falling houses were seen on the *five of spades*, with a flag inscribed *scire facias* flying over a water wheel. The verses were these:—

"You that are blest with wealth by your Creator,
And want to drown your money in Thames water,
Buy but York Buildings, and the cistern there
Will sink more pence than any fool can spare."

The *seven of hearts* treated the company formed for building ships to let to freight, which was thus complimented:—

"Who but a nest of blockheads, to their cost,
Would build new ships for freight when trade is lost?"

To raise fresh barks must surely be awaiting,
When hundreds rot in dock for want of using."

"The Pennsylvanian Drabs" seem already to have gained a "pretty considerable character," as the *nine of diamonds* exhibited the subjoined compliment to the "Pennsylvania Company."

"Come all ye saints that would for little buy
Great tracts of land, and care not where they lie,
Deal with your Quaking friends, they're men
of light—
The Spirit hates deceit, and scorns to bite."

A plan for insuring the lives of horses was illustrated in the *nine of diamonds*, in which several dead horses were seen on the ground. These lines followed:—

"You that keep horses to preserve your ease,
And pads to please your wives and mistresses,
Insure their lives, and if they die we'll make
Full satisfaction, or be bound to break."

Many, no doubt, still remember the days, or rather nights, when an invitation to tea—dinner parties were not of very frequent occurrence—was usually concluded with the remark, "and then we can have a nice rubber of whist," or "a game of seven-shilling loo." No other mode of passing the hours from five or six, by which time the cups and saucers had generally disappeared, till twelve or one was recognised; with the exception of dancing, whist, piquet, or loo, formed the regular occupation of the evening. An hour for tea and scandal, five or six hours for cards, another hour for supper, and then by way of a conclusion, and "just to pass away half an hour"—another game at cards; and not unfrequently the visitor who had been invited to a tea party arose from the table, the loser of from twenty to thirty guineas. And this rage for gambling was not confined to gentlemen; coteries of ladies, young and old, married and single, had their regular nights of meeting, and the household expenses were occasionally not a little increased by the loss in a single evening, of three times the last night's winnings. It was in vain that sermons were preached, moral tales written, Hogarth's 'Lady's last stake' painted, and moral dramas performed, to stop the growth of what eventually became a frightful evil; the prince and the peasant, the clergyman and the actor, alike yielded to temptation, and hour after hour, evening after evening still found them glowing over the gaming table.

But in London were the favourite resorts of professed gamblers, who, despising the quiet though sufficiently hazardous game of the family circle, preferred a desperate one with avowed sharpers.

The green-rooms of the theatres were frequently the scene of great doings in the

gambling way. Miss Bellamy tells us that thousands were frequently lost there in a night. To witness some of these aristocratic follies, if they do not deserve a harsher name, that celebrated actress one night took a lady of title, her patroness, behind the scenes. On that occasion, however, she seems to lament that fashionable ruin was not going on in the usual way; and on entering the apartment Miss Bellamy was horrified at seeing Mrs Woffington with a pot of porter in her hand, giving as a toast "Confusion to all order." The great lady she had introduced, shocked at something so vastly different from what she had expected to behold, it is added, delicately exclaimed, "Is all hell broke loose?" and immediately retired. The vulgar jollity of the actress appalled her ladyship, and produced the exclamation just quoted. She had expected to behold a different hell.

The 'Daily Journal,' of Jan. 9th, 1751, gives a list of the officers retained in the "most notorious gaming houses." The first twelve were—

"1st. A Commissioner, always a proprietor, who looks in of a night; and the week's account is audited by him and two other proprietors.

"2nd. A Director, who superintends the room.

"3rd. An Operator, who deals the cards at a cheating game called Faro.

"4th. Two Crowpees, who watch the cards, and gather the money for the bank.

"5th. Two Puffs, who have money given them to decoy others to play.

"6th. A Clerk, who is a check upon the Puffs to see that they sink none of the money given them to play with.

"7th. A Squib is a puff of lower rank, who serves at half-pay salary while he is learning to deal.

"8th. A Flasher, to swear how often the bank has been stript.

"9th. A Dunner, who goes about to recover money lost at play.

"10th. A Waiter, to fill out wine, snuff candles, and attend the gaming-room,

"11th. An Attorney, a Newgate solicitor.

"12th. A Captain, who is to fight any gentleman who is peevish for losing his money."

Foots, the celebrated comedian, was a notorious gambler, till the dissipation of his entire fortune and the subsequent distress of his condition taught him prudence; and Fox often deserted the benches of the House of Commons to pay a visit to the gaming house. The chocolate rooms in the vicinity of Charing cross, Golden square, and Leicester fields (now called Leicester square), were the principal rendezvous of gamblers, and at these "hells," as they are justly termed, a

fortune or an estate was often lost and won in a few hours, and the man who had entered into the room in a state of comparative affluence turned into the streets at night penniless, and probably in debt to a large amount! When every article of value—money, land, and jewels had been staked and lost, when the black-legs who frequented the gaming tables, preying upon the inexperienced, had robbed them of their money to the last sixpence, and their property to their rings and brooches, they were invited, nay, encouraged to proceed until land, estates, and houses, all had passed away, and then, when the almost irresistible fascination and maddening excitement of the game were over, the unhappy gambler found himself a homeless wanderer in the streets, without a shilling to call his own or to purchase for him food or lodging. The necessary consequence was the constant recurrence of murders, robberies, suicides, and duels; it was the same oft-repeated tale that at last, from very repetition, scarce shocked the feelings of the readers of the newspapers. From Leicester square to the Serpentine or the Thames was but a short journey, and phrenzy, despair, and madness pointed out the way. The report of a pistol or a sullen plash in the water was the dying knell of the unhappy gamester, and when his body was found and recognised, the report of the dreadful, but by no means unfrequent, occurrence was usually wound up by the remark that "no money was found upon his person."

ALEXANDER ANDREWS.

A BUNN AND A BELL.

(A parody.)

Tune—*Said a smile to a tear.*

SAID A. Bunn to a Bell,
In a half screech or yell,
And frown'd like a cloud in bad weather,
"How is it Bob B.
That you wish to see,

Your work and my players together?"

"I brought something smart
Relief to impart,

To yonder poor devil, John Bull;"

"And I," said the Bunn,

"Came to banish all fun,

Since you gave a play with it full."

"O! then," said the Bell,

"Sweet Bunn, will you tell,

"Is it known you are out to your mother?"

But—how sweetly it sounds!

Entre nous, fifty pounds,

You must tip ere you humbug another."

Master Stratton.—The Queen has been advised to decline seeing the wonderful dwarf, Master Stratton, for the present. After a certain event he will have the honour of appearing in her presence.



Arms. Or, six amulets, sa.

Crest. A dragon, passant, ar.

Supporters. Two horses, ar., each gorged with a chaplet of laurel, ppr.

Motto. "Magistratus indicat virum." "The magistrate proves (or evinces the character of) the man."

THE NOBLE HOUSE OF LONSDALE.

This family is of great antiquity in the counties of Westmoreland and Cumberland, having been established at Lowther Hall, in the former county, from a very remote period. Sir Richard Lowther served the office of high sheriff in the eighth and again in the thirtieth of Queen Elizabeth. He succeeded his cousin, Henry Lord Scroop, as Lord Warden of the Westmoreland marshes, and was thrice a commissioner in the great affairs between Elizabeth and Scotland, during the reign of that princess. When Mary Queen of Scots fled into England and arrived at Workington, in Cumberland, in May, 1568, Elizabeth sent orders to Sir Richard that he should convey the Scottish Queen to Carlisle Castle. The sheriff, while she remained in his custody, incurred the displeasure of Queen Elizabeth by permitting the Duke of Norfolk to visit his prisoner. Sir Richard died January 27, 1607, leaving, with other issue, Sir Christopher, of whom we shall presently speak, Sir Gerard, of St Michael's, Dublin, who subsequently became Chief Justice of the Common Pleas and afterwards Lord High Chancellor in Ireland, and Sir Launcelot, one of the barons of the Exchequer and a privy counsellor in Ireland.

Sir Christopher, the eldest son of Sir Richard above mentioned, was succeeded by Sir John Lowther. He was M.P. for Westminster in the reigns of James and Charles I. Sir John, on his decease in 1637, was succeeded by his eldest son, who bore the same name. The latter died in 1675, and the title then devolved on his grandson, Sir John, who was the thirty-first knight in the family, almost in direct succession. He was returned for Westminster in 1675, and continued to represent the shire so long as he remained a commoner. On the accession of King William, Sir John became a member of the Privy Council. In 1689 he was nominated Lord Lieutenant of Westmoreland and

Cumberland. In 1690 he was appointed first commissioner of the Treasury, and elevated to the peerage May 28, 1696, by the title of Viscount Lonsdale and Baron Lowther. He died July 10, 1700, and was succeeded by his eldest son Richard, who on his death in 1713 was succeeded by his brother Henry, third viscount. On his decease without issue, March 12, 1750, the viscounty ceased, and the baronetcy and estates devolved on his grand nephew, Sir James Lowther. This gentleman was the eldest son of Robert Lowther, Esq., Governor of Barbadoes, and Catherine, daughter of Sir Joseph Pennington, Bart. (which Catherine Pennington's mother was the Hon. Margaret Lowther, daughter of the first Viscount Lowther). Sir James had represented the counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland for a number of years in parliament. He was raised to the peerage, May 24, 1784, by the title of Baron Lowther, of Lowther, Viscount Lowther, and Earl of Lonsdale. He married, September 7, 1761, Margaret, daughter of John Earl of Bute, but having no issue he obtained a new patent, October 10, 1797, creating him Baron and Viscount Lowther, with remainder to the heirs male of his cousin, the Rev. Sir William Lowther, Baronet, of Swillington; and dying, May 24, 1802, all his honours expired, except those of the last creation, which devolved, according to the limitation, with the deceased earl's estates in Westmoreland and Cumberland, upon Sir William Lowther, Baronet, the eldest son of the Rev. William Lowther, of Little Preston, prebendary of York, and rector of Swillington, who at the death of the Rev. Sir W. Lowther, Bart., of Swillington (when that baronetcy ceased), succeeded by bequest to the estate of Swillington, and being created a baronet, August 22, 1764, became the Rev. Sir William Lowther, of Swillington, as designated in the renewed patent. He married Anne, daughter of the Rev. Charles Zouch, vicar of Sandal, in the county of York, by

whom he had issue. He was succeeded by his eldest son, William, the late earl, who died on the 19th instant. His lordship was born the 29th December, 1757, and on the death of his father in 1788, succeeded to the baronetcy. He had previously—namely, on the 12th July, 1781, married Lady Augusta Fane, eldest daughter of John, ninth Earl of Westmoreland, and sister of the late earl, by whom, who died the 6th March, 1838, he had a family of two sons and five daughters. The late earl entered the army as ensign in the 84th regiment, on the 6th of March, 1794, and in January, 1800, obtained a lieutenant-colonelcy, having previously retired on half-pay with the regimental rank of major. On the death of James, Earl of Lonsdale, who in 1797 was created a viscount, with a collateral remainder to his relative Sir William Lowther before mentioned, 24th of May, 1803, he succeeded to the family estates, and became Viscount Lowther. In 1807 he was created Earl of Lonsdale, and was the same year nominated a Knight of the Garter: with the exception of the Duke of Rutland, he was senior knight of that order. The deceased was a Fellow of the Society of Arts, Lord Lieutenant and Vice-Admiral of the counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland, and Recorder of Carlisle. The title has now fallen on his eldest son, Viscount Lowther, born July 30, 1787. His lordship represented the county of Westmoreland in the House of Commons from 1818 to 1831, when he sat for Dunwich. In 1832 he was again returned for his native county, which he continued to represent in parliament until the last general election, when he was summoned to the House of Lords by the title of Baron Lowther. The noble earl during the Wellington administration was Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests, and when Sir Robert Peel came into office in 1834, he was appointed Treasurer of the Navy and Vice-President of the Board of Trade. Since the present government succeeded to the seals of office, he has filled the appointment of Postmaster-General.

A NEW CALAMITY—AN AUTHOR WRITING TOO WELL.

THE letter inserted last week, from Mr Bunn to Mr Bell, on the subject of his comedy (inserted in a preface to a new edition of 'Mothers and Daughters'), with other circumstances, proves that it is no small misfortune in these days for an author who aspires to the stage, to write too well. The manager says—"One of our best of modern comedies cannot be acted, and that is entirely to be attributed to the crippled state of the theatre, and the impossibility of doing it justice." Mr

Webster thought highly of it, but Mr Farren "could not see himself in it," though it is proved everybody else could. A play was therefore to be thrown out, not because it wanted wit or knowledge of human nature, but because one performer thought he might get less applause than he sometimes obtains. Really an actor of Farren's standing might have sacrificed a little to have gratified the public. His selfishness ought not to have turned Mr Bell out of the theatre.

The compliments Mr Bell received were numerous. "Mr Bartley," he says, "was obliging enough to declare that the comedy required a much stronger cast than the resources of the theatre could command: that it wanted such actors as Elliston, Munden, and others of that day: and, with a friendly zeal for which I am bound to be grateful, he advised me to reconsider the prudence of bringing it out under such circumstances. He assured me that, instead of running thirty or forty nights, as, properly cast, it ought to run, it would probably not live beyond fifteen or twenty."

A still richer bit, however, is given of this gentleman:—"If the comedy were mine," was one of Mr Bartley's observations, "I should lock it up like a bank-post bill, and wait patiently." "So should I," was the answer, "if you could tell me when it would be due." "The whole affair," adds Mr Bell, "is a practical commentary on the present state of our theatres. A dramatist gets a play enacted, not when he ought, but when he can."

He resolved to get it acted, and a curious account we have of the treatment it received. He says:—"The company are assembled. Mr Bartley reads the play. Every body concerned entertains the stranger with the most cordial good will. All the scenes tell successfully (a good omen) on the habitual nerves of the listeners. The parts are cast and distributed; and the pleasant group, with their various fluctuating anticipations, break up like a flight of birds. This was on Saturday, January 14th, 1843.

"To those who are acquainted with the preparations requisite for putting a five-act comedy on the stage, with any reasonable hope of success, it is needless to observe that some little time is necessary for study, and for such a number of rehearsals as will enable the performers not only to master the fineness of the dialogue (to say nothing about character), but to acquire a certain degree of fluency in its delivery—that fluency which is the life-blood of acted comedy. But to those who are not familiar with stage mysteries, it may be as well to add, that the time usually consumed in these preliminaries (as essential for the actors as the author) is about a month or six weeks, according

to circumstances. In France, where these matters are much better ordered, a still longer period is devoted to this purpose.

"Some notion of the care that was bestowed upon this comedy, may be formed from the circumstance, that it had four rehearsals between the day when it was read in the green-room and the night of its production on the stage; and some of these rehearsals, too, were scrambled for amongst a mob of people who were trying to hurry forward, in the same helter-skelter way, a tumultuous opera of such multitudinous magnificence, that it must have put the printer to his wits' end to squeeze its descriptive particulars into a double play-bill! To suppose that any actors could be ready to do justice to a new play, or to themselves, at such short notice, would be preposterous; but in this case, where some of the characters did not sit quite easily upon the performers, the utmost that could be hoped for was to escape a complete and disgraceful failure. How much praise, then, is due to the artists who, under such circumstances, carried the play triumphantly through its perilous ordeal!

"*'Mothers and Daughters'* was produced on Tuesday, 24th January, and the play-bill of that day was filled with announcements up to the following Saturday. This is a significant feature in the case. If Mr Bunn intended to give the comedy the smallest chance of success, he would have left room for its repetition, while the impression it made was yet fresh. But he never intended that it should succeed."

This gives but an indifferent picture of the present state of theatricals. Perhaps we may derive comfort from the reflection, that if a play is not to be repeated because it is good, the incident is one which is not likely to be of very common occurrence; but ought this state of things to continue?

THE YOUNG QUEEN OF SPAIN.

It is hinted that Don Carlos meditates renouncing all claim to the Spanish crown. That, all impartial observers are of opinion, is the wisest step he can take. Those who have credit for being the most profound politicians, think, however fiercely his efforts to obtain it may be renewed, he will never gain it, and if this be an error, it may still reasonably be doubted, looking at the distracted state of Spain, whether it would be worth gaining. Louis Philippe, who had thought of bringing about a union between the young Queen and one of his sons, seems to have abandoned the project for the present. Time will show whether in this the King of the French is sincere, or if sincere, will prove firm. The return of his royal friend, Queen Christina, to Madrid, may open new views to

his majesty, but all eyes are now turned to the eldest son of Don Carlos as the future king consort.

Whoever may gain the hand of the young Isabella, report says he is likely to "catch a Tartar." She is petulant and sullen. Her person presents but little of her mother's beauty. Her sister, the Infanta, has great personal advantages. Mr Haverty, in his *'Wanderings'*, gives a very captivating picture of the latter. The appearance of the two royal ladies at the opening of the Constitutional Assembly last year is thus described:—

"Shortly after twelve o'clock the peers and commoners, mustering in tolerably large numbers, took their seats, a solitary bishop occupying one on the back benches; and two deputations—one to receive the Queen, and the other the Infanta—left the house. In a few moments the latter deputation again made their appearance in the house, and the Infanta, Donna Maria Louisa Fernanda, was seen in front of the tribune prepared for her royal highness, robed in white and gold, and beaming with beauty and innocence. The hum of conversation was hushed as her presence was announced, and an involuntary murmur of admiration followed. She appeared, as it were, to realize those images of beauty and splendour with which the imagination of youth peoples the realms of fairy-land. Although then little more than eleven years of age, she seemed to be moulded in beauty's fairest form; and with the gracefulness and simplicity of childhood, she smiled familiarly on all she knew around her, curtsying with exquisite grace, and looking eagerly from time to time towards the tribune over her head, where her attendants were, to exchange a smile. The curiosity to see the princess was scarcely gratified before the young Queen herself, accompanied by the regent, Espartero, and followed by the officers of the household, made her appearance. She is by no means so beautiful as the Infanta, but is much fairer; her figure also is good, and her neck and arms worthy a sculptor's study; and although at that time no more than twelve years and six months old, she seemed already to have sprung into womanhood. She was robed in white satin, waved with flowers of delicate tint, and wore a diadem of silver richly spangled with diamonds—the great, golden crown having been placed on a table near the throne. Her train, which was of a deep green velvet, lined with ermine, was borne by an officer of the household, and Madame Mina, the royal *camarera* and *governante*, walked behind her majesty, dressed in the plain, black costume of a Spanish lady. It was pleasing to see the fair young Queen, as soon as she entered, look earnestly around for her sister, whom, perhaps, the

preparations for the ceremony had prevented her from seeing before on that day."

In support of what has been said of the temper of Queen Isabella, we quote from the same writer a notice of the sisters at church:—

"The amiable little Infanta seemed to devote, perhaps, too much of her attention to her royal sister, who was evidently the object of all her admiration and affection. They wore bonnets of green velvet, but on subsequent occasions I frequently saw them wear the Spanish mantilla, of which the Queen is said to be particularly fond. When the Queen's name was mentioned in the prayers at mass, the train of priests turned round and bowed to her Majesty, but she only returned the salutation with a rapid inclination of the head; and in this as well as in her other abrupt gestures, such as starting every moment from her seat, and tossing her head about violently, she displayed not only an extremely defective education, but, it is to be feared, a sullenness and violence of disposition also. In this respect it is apprehended that she will but too strongly resemble her royal father, as she decidedly does in a certain coarseness of expression about the mouth and chin, if not in the general outline of her features. On one occasion I saw her Majesty lose temper so much, because her governess could not make her understand the parts of the office in her prayer book, that she shut up the book in a pet, and refused to speak with her sister, who was gently endeavouring to soothe her anger."

THE WRETCHED MISER; OR GOD'S REVENGE AGAINST THE OPPRESSOR.

Remarkable in a most Miraculous Punishment inflicted on the Person of a Notorious Usurer, in Sunderland, near New-Castle.

Who having unjustly taken away two kine from a poor Widdow, put them among twenty of his own, which were all struck by the hand of heaven, and found dead the next morning: the Widdows Kine only escaping: which sad judgement when the Miser had seen, he fell a Cursing, Blaspheming, and Deriding Gods justice in such words as are not fit to be named amongst Christians.

Thereupon he immediately Sunk into the Ground above the waste, and there continually Barketh and Howleth like a Dog Day and Night, still beckoning with his hand for assistance, to the great terrour and amazement of all that see or hear him.

"Consume them in thy Wrath, consume them that they may not be.

"And at evening let them return, let them

make a noise like a Dog, and go round about the City."—Psalm, 59. 13. 14.

Printed for P. Brooksby at the Golden-ball in West-smith's-field.

THE cry of the oppressed is so loud that it pierceth Heaven, and reacheth even to the ears of the Almighty, who is graciously pleased to espouse their Quarrel, and to engage himself in their revenge. For the oppression of the poor for the sighing of the needy I will arise, saith the Lord, &c. Psalm 12. 5. But in the cause of the Fatherless children and the widdow, God is pleased to declare himself more particularly concerned, and therefore whosoever injureth or oppresseth them he provoketh the most high to wrath and indignation against him, of which we shall see a dreadful example in the ensuing Narrative.

In the Town of Sunderland not many miles from Newcastle, there lately lived a person (whom I forbear to name), of great wealth; though not much reputation in the Country where he lived, for the vast sums of money he had raked together were gotten by such unjust and indirect ways that he was envied by the rich, despised by the good, dreaded by the poor, and hated by all men; a wretched miser he was that scarce allowed himself or his Family necessaries for the support of Life, all the pleasure he took in this world was in multiplying of his bags, those idols of silver and gold, to which he constantly paid his Devotions, and to this end the business of his whole life was no other than to defraud the rich, and oppress the poor, resembling his father the Devil in this, that he went dayly too and fro seeking whom he might devour, and having in him too much of the nature of the Pine-tree, which destroys every thing that grows within reach of it's shaddow.

Not far from his house there dwelt a Widdow, miserable, who really wanted those necessaries the miser was afraid to make use of; one that lived in a Cottage of *Turf*, more like a Den than a house, having scarce any other sustenance for herself and two small children than what she receiv'd from two Kine which she had the privilege to keep in an adjacent Common. Her Husband, it seems, in his life time owed this Miser four pounds for rent, for a small Tenement he had taken of him: and a very hard bargain it prov'd, for with all his care and labour, in four years time he could compass to pay him no more than three pound of the principal Money, for which he took his Acquittance, and shortly after dyed. After his Death, the Widdow was very much troubled, partly for the loss of her Husband, and partly for fear of the Usurer, lest if he should come and demand the remaining twenty shillings, before she had wherewith to satisfy him, he

might (according to his usual custom) violently prosecute her to the utter ruine of her self and children, to prevent which mischief, she wrought hard Night and Day, using all manner of thrift, and allowing herself no more than would (as we say) just keep life and soul together: so with much ado she had at last (to her great Joy) gotten up the twenty shillings, which she kept carefully in a Pitcher underground against the Miser came for his Money.

In very little time after he came and knocked at her Door, but she, overjoy'd that she had the Money ready, before she would open the Door, ran and taking up her Pitcher, came to him very cheerfully. Master, says she, here is your money, and with it I give you a thousand thanks: the Usurer seeing the money, and fancying the Acquittance might be lost or mislay'd (as indeed it was) replied to her, Woman what dost thou mean, to give me twenty Shillings instead of four pound? The poor woman amazed heret at and not being able to prove the payment of three pound before, fell upon her Knees and beg'd him for God's sake that he would take what was his due and trouble her no more, for that she had seen a Quittance (as the poor Creature call'd it) under his hand, for three pound paid by her Husband. But he very impudently Denied the Receipt of any such money, and Desired that God would inflict some heavy judgement upon him, if ever he saw a penny of it, and so going away with horrible Curses, and Oaths, in his Mouth, threatening to sue the poor Widdow for his money, he left her to her tears and prayers, miserably lamenting her condition, and comforting her self only with the words of David: saying, "The Lord will be a Refuge for the oppressed, a Refuge in time of trouble." Psalm 9. 9.

While the Woman was in the mid'st of her affliction, weeping over her poor Infants, and every hour expecting the fury of the oppressor: he concluded upon a Writ of Attachment as the speediest way to get his own (or rather the Widdows money) into his hands, which accordingly he obtained in a very few Days, and serving it upon her two Kine, he took them into his custody, and put them among twenty more which he had of his own. The poor Woman neither finding nor expecting mercy at the hands of a merciless man, desired earnestly of God that he would be pleas'd according to his gracious promise, to plead her cause, and to deliver her from the violent man. However she and her little ones went that night supperless to bed for want of milk, almost the only thing by which they subsisted. Little rest was taken among them that night, the mothers heart was too full of grief, and the childrens

bellies too empty of victuals to sleep or be at quiet, and in this condition at the present we leave them.

The miser hardning himself in his wickedness, and having no remorse of conscience for what he had done, slept very securely that night, abundantly satisfied that he had made a small addition to his stock; little dreaming that he had gotten a canker to eat up his estate, or that the widdows lean Kine (like Pharaohs) came in for the destruction of the fat. But Walking in the Morning early to his Grounds he found it so to his cost, for by I know not what miracle all his own cattle were Killed in the strangest manner that ever eye beheld, not one remaining alive in the ground, save only the poor Widdows; some had their horns stuck fast in the ground till they had beaten themselves to Death, others were blasted with Lightning, many riven in sunder, and one prodigiously swell'd, with a kind of Corruption boiling out of her nose, which stunk so loathsomely that none could indure to come nigh her. The miser at first could not believe his eyes, till being fully convinced of the truth of the misfortune by his other senses, he fell to stamping, raving, cursing, swearing, and tearing his hair as if he had been Distracted, one while blaspheming against God, another while cursing and daming of the widdow and her Kine.

A Neighbour of his perceiving him in this outrage, was walking up towards him, to see what was the matter, and being come almost to him, he heard him wish the Widdow (such a one) a Dog: there would be Carrion enough for her: immediately upon which he sunk by degrees into the ground, as far as his waste, and fell to howling and barking like a Dog, after so strange and terrible a manner, that he was afraid to come near him: so that making what haste he could away, he reported the thing publicly in the neighbouring Village, insomuch that it was quickly noised far and wide, and immediately thousands of people flocked from all parts to see and hear this prodigious Miracle: and there is scarce a man in all that part of the Country, but is ready to testify that he hath been both an eye and ear witness of this dreadful example of wrath and justice. For any person at Noon-day may both hear him bark and howl, and see him wave his hand, and struggle, as it were, to get out of the ground, but all spectators are struck with such horror and amazement that none durst go nigh him, either to view him, or relieve him.

The Magistrates of the adjacent Burrough, being informed as well of the Injury the poor Widdow had received, as also of the wonderful judgement inflicted on the Miser, repaired to the place, resolving to

relieve the former, and be satisfied in the latter, and when they had been confirmed in the truth of the whole matter, they admonished the people in the first place to take warning by the sad spectacle before them, to take care how they oppressed their Neighbours, and of provoking God, especially in so high a nature as that wicked wretch had done, and in the next place they thought convenient to order the restoring of the Two remaining Kine to the poor Widow, whose right they were : to which the Relations of the Wretched Usurer most readily consented.

The Woman being overjoyed at the sight of her Kine, could not but return her hearty thanks to Almighty God for his wonderful Providence towards her, and like a good and charitable Christian, immediately fell to her prayers, that God would be pleased to give the wretch that had injured her, a sense of his Sins, and if it were his blessed will, to take off his heavy hand, and to restore him to his former condition, but as yet God hath not heard her prayers, and what will be the effect thereof he only knows to whom they are made ; sure I am that it will well become every Christian to make his peace with God in time, and from this dreadful example to learn to serve the Lord with fear and trembling.

[Reprinted from a copy of the original pamphlet in the Collection of Mr John Moore, Sunderland, as published in the 'Local Historian's Table-book.']

Biscellaneous.

BERNADOTTE, THE LATE KING OF SWEDEN—was born at Pau, in the Pyrenees, on the 26th January, 1764, and was christened by the name of John Baptiste Julius Bernadotte. His father was a lawyer, and gave him a good education. In 1780 he enlisted in the army, and was orderly sergeant in 1789, when the revolution broke out. We find him in 1794 a general of division, and in 1795 the famous retreat across the Rhine was principally effected under his superintendence. His military talents were quickly discovered by Napoleon, who reposed great confidence in him. The passage of the French army at Newwied, the siege of Mentz, and many other celebrated military feats, established his reputation as a commander of the first rank. He was requested by Napoleon to undertake the siege of Gradiaska, which he accomplished, and displayed military ability of the highest order. At the 18th Fructidor Napoleon selected him to bear the colours which had been taken at the battle of Rivoli. At the conclusion of a treaty of peace at Leoben, the disturbances

in the south of France continued to convulse the surrounding country, the directory of that period appointed Bernadotte commandant of Marseilles; but he refused to accept this appointment, and in a few months afterwards was installed as ambassador from the French Republic to the Court of Vienna. A misunderstanding caused a considerable riot at Vienna, where Bernadotte hoisted the tricoloured flag on his palace, and he left the Austrian capital to go to Rastadt. From that time he was employed by Napoleon in several important military missions, and finally in 1799 was appointed a member of the Privy Council for the war department. In 1799 he refused to take the command of the famous expedition against St Domingo. After the Lunerville peace (1801), he was appointed ambassador to the United States, which he refused. In 1804 he accepted the command in Hanover, where by his humanity he obtained great popularity. At the battle of Austerlitz, Bernadotte's division created great havoc in the Russian army, and Napoleon then created him Prince of Ponte Corvo and grand officer of the Legion of Honour. In 1806, on the 14th October, when marching from Dornburg, after having beaten Blucher, and pursuing him to Lubeck, he was the only general either of the French or the German allies who used their best endeavours to preserve that city from ruin. He distinguished himself afterwards at the battle of Wagram, and was next appointed commander of the coast of Holland and Belgium, which trust he also fulfilled to the satisfaction of Napoleon. Bernadotte then retired to comparative privacy in the neighbourhood of Paris, when on the 21st August, 1810, he was unanimously elected by the states of the kingdom of Sweden as successor to the throne of Charles XIII, provided he would adopt the doctrines of the Lutheran faith. Napoleon had no influence whatever upon this election ; on the contrary, it is well known from the best authenticated memoirs that his wishes were in favour of the King of Denmark, who was likewise a candidate for the Swedish throne. After having elected the new successor to the throne a Knight of the Order of the Seraphim, Charles XIII confirmed the election at Osebroe and adopted Bernadotte as his son. Napoleon, upon being applied to for a confirmation, declared that he never could nor would interfere with the election of a free nation. Bernadotte accepted the choice of the Swedes. As Crown Prince of Sweden Bernadotte distinguished himself as an able commander during the campaigns of 1813 and 1814. Charles XIII died on the 5th February, 1818, and his adopted son Bernadotte succeeded him on the throne without the slightest oppo-

sition. His wise and temperate government whilst he reigned over the Scandinavian peninsula will be recorded in history.

MYSTERIOUS SOCIETY.—In Paris there were lately rumours of the existence of a mysterious society in the Faubourg Saint Jacques and Saint Marceau, the members of which came forth in the dark, in the environs of the barriers, and having forced away several girls, did not set them at liberty again until they had undergone the most brutal treatment. About ten days ago several fathers and mothers of families laid informations before the commissary of police that their daughters, who were only between twelve and fourteen years of age, had been accosted, some at the Barrière de Fontainebleau, others at the Barrière Saint Jacques, by young and well-dressed men, who invited them to go to a dance, and afterwards compelled them to accept a supper. Of what took place at the conclusion the poor girls could give no account, for they were thrown into a state of lethargy, in which they remained for a long time, and on recovering their senses found themselves resting against stone posts in obscure corners of the quarters above mentioned. Twelve of the offenders have been arrested. It appears from the examinations that the wretches had joined in hiring a house in the Rue de l'Oursine, to carry on their hideous designs. To this they gave the name of the Tour de Neale, and they called the room in which they consummated their outrages the Chambre Orsini; each assuming the name of one of the characters of the drama entitled 'Tour de Neale.'

The Catheter.

Guilt of Enclosing Commons.—Mr Fyfe Palmer, on the subject of enclosing commons, produced the following quaint lines:—

"The crime is great in man or woman,
Who steals a goose from off a common;
But who shall plead the man's excuse,
That steals the common from the goose?"

Huntingdonshire behind other Counties.—

At a late meeting Mr Cobden remarked it was a curious historical fact that in almost every matter of improvement Huntingdon was greatly behind every other portion of the country. Huntingdon was the last place in England where they burnt old women for witchcraft; and it was a remarkable fact that an annual sermon was now preached by a Fellow of a College in Cambridge—a bequest having been made for that purpose—at Huntingdon against witchcraft. He thought it would be a very good thing if they could get one of these Fellows to preach an annual sermon in Huntingdon against the corn laws, for

there was little difference between burning old women for witchcraft and destroying women and children by not allowing them to have a sufficiency of food.

Quicksilver.—There has been importation from China of about 300 boxes of quicksilver. The article is stated to have been bid for at 3s. 5d. per lb., but this price has been refused, as Messrs Rothschild require about 4s. 6d. for the Spanish product. The important points to be decided are, first, as to the quality of the Chinese quicksilver; and, secondly, as to the quantity available; if these be satisfactorily met, the results will be of the very first importance.

General Bertrand, on his death-bed charged his brother, M. L. Bertrand, to present to the city of Lyons a copy of the campaigns of Italy, written by the Emperor at the island of St Helena. Napoleon had two copies made, one of which he gave to General Bertrand, and which is now transferred to Lyons.

Duels.—From the commencement of the reign of George III to the reign of her Majesty upwards of 200 duels have been fought. In three, both combatants were killed. In eighty, one of the combatants was killed in each, and in all one hundred and twenty were wounded. Upwards of twenty trials for duels have occurred, in which four duellists were found guilty of murder, and two were hanged. In the list of duellists occur the names of York, Norfolk, Castlereagh, Pitt, Fox, Sheridan, Grattan, Burdett, Canning, Peel, Wellington, and Winchelsea.

Frederick the Great's Regimen.—Zimmerman, in his narratives of his interviews with Frederick, says, "To-day the king had taken a great quantity of soup, made of the strongest gravy drawn from the most healing things. With his portion he mixed a large table-spoonful of pounded mace and pounded ginger. He then ate a large slice of beef stewed in brandy. This he followed up by a copious allowance of an Italian dish, composed half of maize flour and half of Parmesan cheese; to this he added the juice of garlic, and the whole is fried in butter till it acquires a crust as thick as one's finger. This dish is called *potenta*. At length (continues Zimmerman) the king praising the excellent appetite which the dandelion had given him, concluded the scene with a large plate of eel pie, so hot and so highly seasoned that it seemed to have been baked in hell. While at table the king fell asleep, and was seized with convulsions."—*Medical Gazette*.

Burial of a Moor.—One of a company of Arabs travelling through France, and performing at the theatres, died lately at Mons. The following details of the cere-

monies observed are from the 'Gazette de Mons':—"In the first place all his hair was shaved off, and the body washed and perfumed with essences. It was then dressed in a new white tunic and placed in a coffin, not entirely closed, with a copy of the Koran on the bosom of the corpse. On arriving at the cemetery the Arabs took off their shoes and washed their feet. Two who were to place the body in the grave, went into the house of the grave-digger and took a cold bath. After that the chief, isolated from all who surrounded him, recited the prayers. These concluded, the two men above mentioned took off their belts and let down the coffin, which had been previously closed, and subjected to copious ablution. At this moment the Arabs set up a terrible howling, and then each threw some earth upon the grave. This was the conclusion."

Revolutionary Standards.—The ensigns of the French regicides were as absurd as they were brutal. The mob of Paris, passing in view of Marie Antoinette, carried one representing a gibbet, to which a dirty doll was suspended; the words "Marie Antoinette à la lanterne" were written beneath it. Another, was a bullock's heart fastened, with an inscription round it, "Heart of Louis XVI."

Sacred Fires.—Much has been said of the sacred fires of Persia. Formerly in this country the same superstition prevailed. In some of the Druid festivals fires were lighted on all the cairns and eminences around by priests carrying sacred torches. All the household fires were previously extinguished, and those who were thought worthy of such a privilege were allowed to relight them with a flaming brand, kindled at the consecrated cairn fire.

Generosity and Gratitude.—Dr Radcliffe once refused to take a fee for attending a friend during a dangerous illness. Upon his recovery, however, the patient presented the agreeable amount in a purse, saying, "Sir, in this purse I have put every day's fee, nor must your goodness get the better of my gratitude." The doctor eyed the purse, counted the number of days to a minute, and holding out his hand, replied, "Well, I can hold out no longer; singly I could have refused them for a twelvemonth, but altogether they are irresistible."

Dr Boettger's Method of removing Marking Ink from Linen.—A somewhat concentrated solution of the cyanide of potassium of Liebig, free from sulphate of potassa, to prevent a combination with sulphur during the calcination, is requisite. This done, characters formed on linen by marking ink may be easily obliterated. They are to be gently rubbed with the solution and they will vanish, leaving the

fabric of the cloth uninjured. If common writing ink has been used with the marking ink, a hot, concentrated solution of oxalic acid will be necessary.

Marie Antoinette and Pitt.—The ill-fated queen of Louis XVI had a great dread of the English minister of that day. "She," says Madame de Campan, "would sometimes say to me, 'I never pronounce the name of Pitt but I feel death at my shoulder (I repeat here her very expressions); that man is the mortal enemy of France, and he takes a dreadful revenge for the impolitic support given by the Cabinet of Versailles to the American insurgents. He wishes, by our destruction, to guarantee the maritime power of his country for ever.'"

What is Death?—A release from toil and labour, a state of quiescence, a dreamless sleep, or a change of our restless and unjoyous existence here, to an active and conscious existence elsewhere.—Whither does this internal spirit go when it leaves its cold clay? To a temporary rest. It is the animal part of man which requires rest, it is the body which is fatigued by exertion, not the mind. How can that which is immaterial suffer weariness or fatigue? What can we reason but from what we know? And what do we know of death?

How to render Dwelling Houses Healthy.—Two processes are necessary to the comfort and salubrity of an apartment—the ejection of sixty gallons per minute of damaged air—the supply of an equal quantity of pure air. There are two modes of doing this: keep the doors or windows sufficiently open to let in the pure air, or always have a large fire to draw the bad air up the chimney out of the apartment. These plans, used together, are certainly effective; unhappily the cure is often as bad as the disease. The air must be changed, but so changed as not to expose the body to injurious draughts of cold air.

The Wearing of Jewels Discouraged.—Diodorus of Sicily, quoting the laws of Zaleucus, brings one before us from which it would seem that pomp and jewels were not always considered indispensable to respectability. It provides that "a free woman shall not have more than one chambermaid to follow her, save when she is drunk; nor leave the city at night, nor wear jewels set in gold about her person, nor any robe enriched with embroidery, if she be not of disreputable character."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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